

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02789 171405Z

15
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 079792

O R 171250Z MAY 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1896
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

S E C R E T USNATO 2789

EXDIS

SECSTATE PLS PASS TO SECDEF

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MASS, BE, FR, NATO
SUBJ: F-104 REPLACEMENT

REF: BRUSSELS 4313 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION HAS THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING A RESPONSE
TO TINDEMANS ABOUT FRENCH INTEREST IN SETTING UP A "EUROPEAN
COUNCIL FOR SECURITY" AND PERHAPS JOINING THE EUROGROUP IF THE
BELGIANS WILL BUY THE MIRAGE:
(A) WE THINK A RESPONSE TO TIMDEMANS SHOULD CONVEY U.S. UNDERSTANDING
OF HIS DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS AND SUPPORT FOR ALLIED
ATTEMPTS TO REINTEGRATE FRANCE INTO THE ATLANTIC SECURITY
STRUCTURE. WE ALSO BELIEVE WE SHOULD REHEARSE FOR TINDEMANS
THE CURRENT DOMESTIC POLITICAL REALITIES IN U.S. PERHAPS DRAWING
ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS:
-- TRADITIONAL U.S. SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN UNITY REMAINS
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 02789 171405Z

UNQUESTIONED.
-- THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND CONGRESS, HOWEVER, ARE
ASKED TO SUPPORT AN ALLIANCE THAT IS TRULY ATLANTIC AND WHICH
SEES EUROPEAN AND U.S. INTERESTS AS COMMON, NOT CONFLICTING.

-- U.S. PUBLIC OPINION WOULD, THEREFORE, FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND PURCHASE "FOR EUROPEAN REASONS" OF HEAVILY SUBSIDIZED AIRCRAFT WHICH CONSORTIUM MODS, INCLUDING VAN DEN BOEHNANTS, HAVE DETERMINED IS LESS EFFECTIVE THAN AMERICAN COMPETITOR, AND WHICH IS PRODUCED BY A COUNTRY WHICH HAS REJECTED COLLECTIVE DEFENSE STRUCTURE.

-- PUBLICITY ABOUT SUCH A CHOICE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE NATO SUMMIT WOULD COMPOUND DAMAGING IMPACT ON U.S. OPINION.

(B) BEYOND FOREGOING, MISSION SUGGESTS FOLLOWING RESPONSES TO TINDEMENAS ON SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED PARA 12 REFTTEL:

-- U.S. HAS CONSISTENTLY ENDORSED AN ALLIANCE DEFENSE CONCEPT AND EUROGROUP CONTRIBUTION THERETO.

-- AS REPEATEDLY STATED, U.S. HOPES FOR MUCH GREATER RATIONALIZATION AND STANDARDIZATION IN COOPERATION WITH ITS EUROPEAN PARTNERS.

-- LIKE EUROPEANS, WE FAVOR A EUROGROUP WHICH FULLY SUPPORTS THE CONCEPT OF A TRANSATLANTIC DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP RATHER THAN COOPERATION FROM WHICH U.S. COULD BE EXCLUDED.

-- ALSO, GOOD REASONS ALREADY EXIST FOR FRANCE TO JOIN THE EUROGROUP AND THESE ATTRACTIONS WOULD SEEM MORE COMPELLING FOR THE FUTURE. THE REWARDS TO FRANCE FOR JOINING EUROGROUP LIE IN PERMITTING FRANCE TO SHARE IN ALLIANCE WEAPONS STANDARDIZATION PROGRAMS INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF NEW SYSTEMS.

-- WE DO NOT, THEREFORE, SEE WHY ADDITIONAL BAIT NEED BE OFFERED TO THE FRENCH, IN THE FORM OF A BELGIAN MIRAGE BUY, TO INDUCE THEM TO DO WHAT IS ALREADY IN THEIR ADVANTAGE TO DO.

(C) AS TO A "EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR SECURITY, WE SUGGEST TINDEMANS BE TOLD:

-- THE UNITED STATES, BASED UPON TREATY COMMITMENTS AND NATIONAL INTERESTS, IS INELUCTABLY INVOLVED IN EUROPEAN SECURITY. THE NAC, DPC, MILITARY COMMITTEE, AND THE NATO INTEGRATED STRUCTURE ARE ACCORDINGLY THE APPROPRIATE FORA IN WHICH TO DISCUSS "EUROPEAN" (AND NORTH AMERICAN) SECURITY ISSUES.

-- MOREOVER, THE FRENCH HAVE NOT TO DATE SPECIFICALLY DEFINED THE FUTURE ORGANIZATION THEY HAVE IN MIND AND HOW IT WOULD EFFECTIVELY COMPLEMENT EXISTING ALLIANCE AND EUROPEAN SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 02789 171405Z

INSTITUTIONS.

FOR EXAMPLE, WE DO NOT SEE HOW A "EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR SECURITY," ESTABLISHED "IN THE EC-NINE FRAMEWORK," WOULD ENCOMPASS THE INTERESTS OF THE NON-NINE ALLIES, I.E. NORWAY, GREECE, TURKEY, OR HOW IT WOULD RELATE TO NEUTRAL IRELAND.

-- MOREOVER, TIMING OF THE OFFER RAISE DOUBTS ABOUT FRENCH MOTIVES IN PROPOSING EUROPEAN COUNCIL AS ADDITIONAL PILLAR FOR WESTERN DEFENSE.

-- ATTEMPTS TO FURTHER SEPARATE U.S. AND EUROPEAN DEFENSE EFFORTS WOULD HAVE CHILLING EFFECT ON NOW-PROMISING INDICATIONS OF GREATER COOPERATION IN CO-PRODUCTION AND RATIONALIZATION (I.E. "THE TWO-WAY STREET").

2. COMMENT: MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATIONS OF ANY FRENCH APPROACHES IN OTHER NATO CAPITALS ON THIS MATTER. FURTHERMORE, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT EMBASSIES IN NATO CAPITALS BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE DEMARCHES TO HOST GOVERNMENTS IN THE EVENT FRENCH ARE PURSUING THEIR LINE WITH OTHER ALLIES. BRUCE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF.

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAY 1975
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO02789
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 XGDS-1
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750599/abbrzkbu.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: BRUSSELS 4313 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <25 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-104 REPLACEMENT
TAGS: MASS, BE, FR, NATO
To: STATE INFO BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG
OSLO

PARIS
ROME
THE HAGUE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006